



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY
GOVERNOR

January 14, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The State of Texas joins the nation and the world in expressing our deepest sympathy for the citizens of Haiti. Because of our experience with catastrophic events over the past years, Texas has developed a tremendous capability and capacity to respond to such tragic disasters. The citizens of Texas would like to make available to you, Mr. President, some of our premier organizations that stand ready to deploy to Haiti.

The brave responders who compose the ranks of these highly professional organizations have been tested and measured by numerous incidents from Ground Zero in New York, to Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, to an incredible period in 2008 when we in Texas experienced three hurricanes, a tropical storm and three separate flood events, all within 58 days. They are incident-tested and are ready to serve.

Attached is a listing of these organizations and their capabilities, which can be used to help alleviate the conditions caused by the disaster in Haiti. Texas stands ready.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Perry". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Rick Perry
Governor

RP:jcp

Attachment

Potential Texas Haiti Response Assets

Personnel (Medical)

1. Medical Assessment and Coordination Team (4 persons) from Texas A&M University (TAMU)/The University of Texas
2. TxMAT (2 teams of 7 persons each) – one from TAMU and one from Angel Staffing – 1 Physician, 2 RN, 2 paramedics, 1 respiratory care
3. Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Command Assistance Team (1 team of 7-10 staff members) – from DSHS central and regional staff; incident management team
4. CASPER team (3-5 person team to augment U.S. Public Health Service)

Supplies (Medical)

1. 40 shelter push packs – support 100 people for 3 days with over-the-counter medications and other shelter supplies
2. 40 shelter supply augmentation kits for infection control focused toward infectious disease (gloves, masks, sanitizers, etc.)

Equipment (Medical)

2 mortuary refrigerated trailers with body bags and supplies

Baptist Child and Family Services: San Antonio (Shelter Medical)

1. 2 each 500 bed shelters including tents
2. 70 staff for Incident Management Team (IMT)
3. 60 KW generators
4. Medical staff (nurses and paramedics)
5. Communications package for satellite and local radios

Texas Baptist Men

Water purification equipment and personnel capable of providing drinking water for 65,000 people

TAMU (Boat)

600 ft boat which could be used to house responders

Search and Rescue: Texas Task Force One – TAMU (already activated by FEMA for deployment)

1. Full up, Urban Search and Rescue Team, Type I
2. 80 personnel
3. Search, Rescue, K-9, Logistics, Communications and Medical
4. Experienced, highly trained

Search and Rescue: Texas Task Force Two – DFW Area

1. A Type III Team. Would be used to augment TTF#1
2. Conduct search of small structures

Texas Forest Service: Task Force Lone Star – Incident Management Team (IMT)

1. Highly trained and experienced IMT
2. 65 personnel
3. State-of-the-art, high-tech, communication, coordination and control

Texas Parks and Wildlife: Search and Rescue/Incident Management Field Operations

1. 104 highly trained and experienced wardens
2. Capable of coordination and control of complex field operations

Texas Military Forces

1. 2 C-130 Cargo Aircraft
2. 6 U-60 Blackhawk Helicopters
3. 2 CH-47 Chinook Cargo Helicopters
4. 1 Combat Communications Squadron: 120 personnel
5. 1 Security Battalion: 400 personnel
6. 1 Medical Detachment: 60 personnel

Texas Department of Public Safety: Law Enforcement Augmentation

1. A cadre of highly experienced officers
2. Self-contained communications capability